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1948



# ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

## Public Health Department

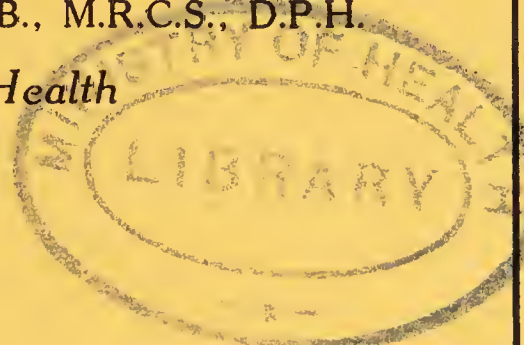
OF THE

## Lymm Urban District Council

BY

ERIC H. MOORE, B.Sc., M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health*





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# TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LYMM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the Urban District of Lymm.

It has been an important year in the history of the Health Services by reason of the coming into force of the National Health Service Act on 5th July, 1948. This Act has brought about profound changes in all branches of the Health Services and not least in those administered by Local Authorities. The Local Health Authorities under this Act are the Councils of Counties and County Boroughs, and on the 5th July, 1948, health services previously administered by other authorities were taken under their administration. In the case of the Urban District of Lymm the only service taken over by the County Council was Immunisation, and the responsibility for this function has been delegated to the Divisional Health Committee.

In an appendix is included information relating to the Health Services available in Lymm which are administered by the County Council.

During the year there has been no unusual incidence of disease and the general standard of health of the area remains good.

I wish to acknowledge the interest and co-operation shown by the Chairman and members of the Council and of the Sanitary Inspector and Clerical Staff.

I am, Your obedient servant,

ERIC H. MOORE.

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## VITAL STATISTICS.

Registrar-General's estimate of population .....	6,340
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population .....	17·8
Total Births .....	113
Illegitimate Births .....	6
Still Births—Legitimate .....	4
Illegitimate .....	Nil
Birth Rate for England and Wales .....	17·9
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population .....	11·0
,,     ,,     ,,     for England and Wales .....	10·8
,,     ,,     of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births .....	61·9
,,     ,,     of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births England and Wales .....	34
Deaths from Puerperal Fever .....	Nil

It is noteworthy that of the 70 deaths

14 were over 80 years of age.

25 were between 70 and 80 years of age.

The main causes of death were Heart Disease 24, Intracranial Lesions 11, Respiratory Diseases 8, Cancer 6.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The cases of infectious disease notified during the year were Scarlet Fever 3, Measles 23.

In common with the whole country there have been an unusual number of cases of measles, but in most cases it assumed a mild form.

Once again there were no cases of Diphtheria.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 3 cases of Tuberculosis were notified (one respiratory Tuberculosis and two non-respiratory). Two deaths from Tuberculosis occurred during the year.

#### IMMUNISATION.

From 5th July responsibility for this service was assumed by the County Council and delegated to the Divisional Health Committee.

From January 1st to July 4th, 32 children completed a full course of Diphtheria immunisation.

#### VACCINATION.

From July 5th, vaccination has not been compulsory and responsibility for urging the importance of this procedure and arranging for it to be carried out has been placed upon the County Council, who have delegated their duties to the Divisional Health Committee.

#### HOUSING.

Good progress was maintained in the provision of new dwelling houses. During the year 52 new houses were completed. The standard of accommodation is high and the design of the houses and the planning of the estates reflect great credit upon the Council. There is a complete absence of the drab monotony so often associated with housing estates. Two houses were also completed by private enterprise.

POPULATION—AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

During the year students of Town and Country Planning have been studying the area, and in the course of their survey they compiled the following tables showing the age and sex distribution of the population of Lymm.

I am indebted to them for supplying me with the figures which I have included in this report, as I considered the Council would be interested in them.

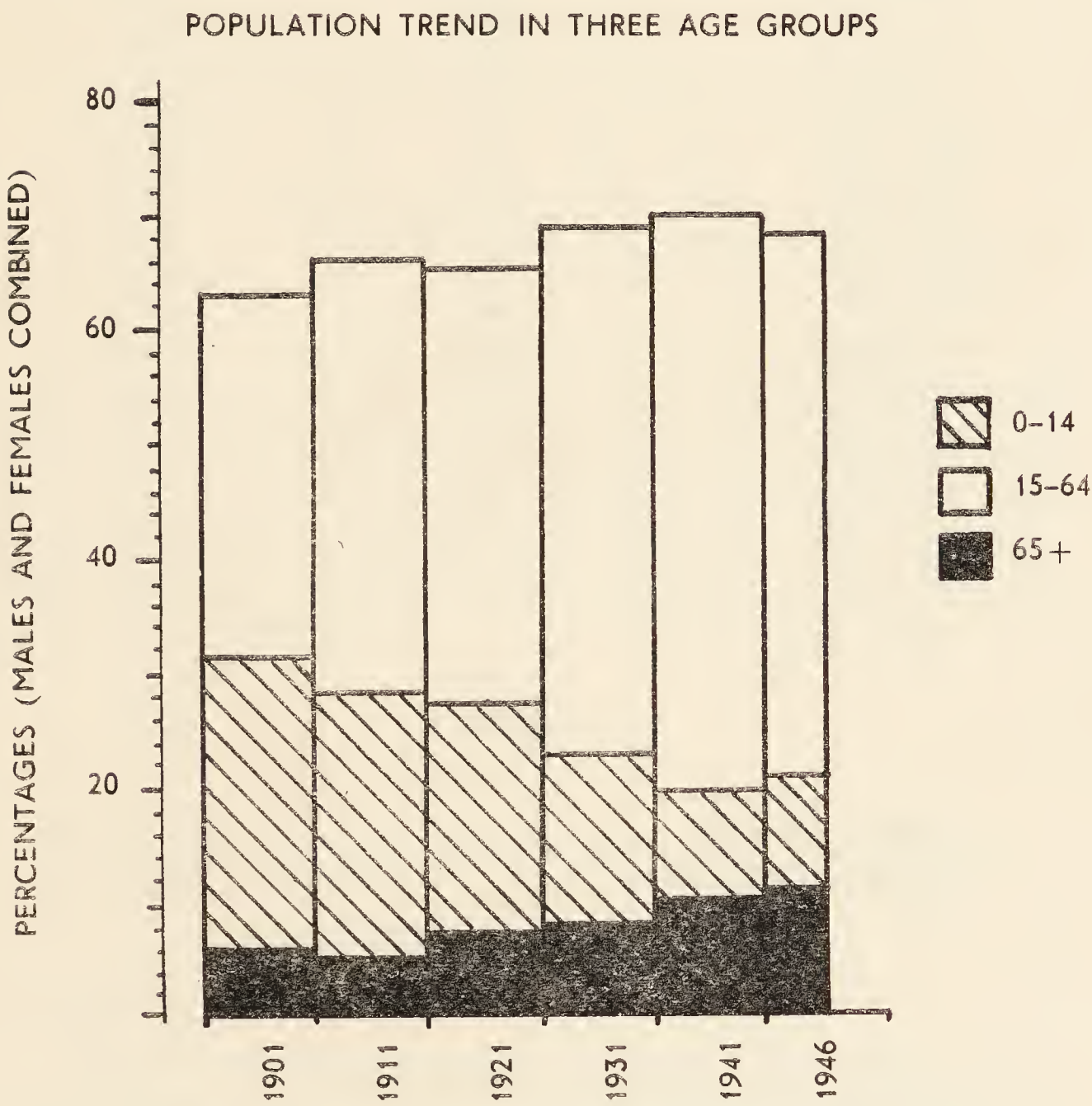


Table 1.

## AGE GROUPS—LYMM URBAN DISTRICT

(as at end of 1946).

		M.		F.
0— 4	...	263	...	223
5— 9	...	216	...	167
10—14	...	174	...	197
15—19	...	193	...	192
20—24	...	225	...	211
25—29	...	228	...	220
30—34	...	217	...	231
35—39	...	221	...	241
40—44	...	217	...	206
45—49	...	163	...	215
50—54	...	192	...	196
55—59	...	162	...	181
60—64	...	133	...	191
65—69	...	101	...	154
70—74	...	91	...	124
75—79	...	51	...	66
80—84	...	13	...	19
85—89	...	1	...	11
90—94	...	—	...	4
95 & over	...	—	...	—
		<hr/> 2,861 <hr/>		<hr/> 3,049 <hr/>
Births (1932-46) .....				1,323
Deaths (1932-46) .....				1,056
				<hr/> 267 <hr/>
Natural Increase .....				267
Grand Total (1946) (excluding migration)				5,910
Population 1931 Census .....				5,643
				<hr/> 267 <hr/>
Natural Increase (excluding migration)				267

Table II.  
DIVISIONAL INTO "CHILD," "WORKING" AND "AGED"  
POPULATION.

Totals (Males and Females combined).						
Age Groups	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1946
0—14 ...	1,445	1,406	1,467	1,305	1,147	1,240
15—64 ...	2,989	3,305	3,458	3,926	4,028	4,035
65 & over...	273	278	358	412	581	635
	4,707	4,989	5,283	5,643	5,746	5,910

Table III. Percentages (Males and Females combined)						
Age Groups	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1946
0—14 ...	30·7%	28·2%	27·8%	23·1%	19·9%	21%
15—64 ...	63·5%	66·2%	65·4%	69·6%	70·0%	68·3%
65 & over	5·8%	5·6%	6·8%	7·3%	10·1%	10·7%

Table III. shows the steady increase of population in the upper age group and the decline in the youngest group. This population trend emphasises the increasing importance of provision being made for the accommodation and care of the aged, since it may be anticipated in the future that there will be a larger number of old persons with relatively fewer in the working group to care for them.

## APPENDIX.

### SERVICES WITHIN THE AREA OF LYMM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ADMINISTERED BY THE CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

#### (1) AMBULANCES.

The area is very adequately supplied with Ambulances, arrangements having been made with the Altrincham Division and the County Borough of Warrington. In the event of difficulty with either of these services, call may be made upon the Sale Ambulance Depot.

## (2) VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

These services are carried out by the local general practitioners, no special clinic at present being held in Lymm. From July 5th to December 31st, 24 children completed diphtheria immunisation and 17 were protected against whooping cough.

## (3) HOME HELPS.

It is intended to appoint one full-time home help to work in Lymm and to supplement her work by the use of casual and part-time workers. The latter service has been available for some time but has been little used. The County Council scale of assessment is used in assessing the payment to be made for this service, but in cases of hardship this may be varied by the Divisional Health Committee.

## (4) HEALTH VISITING.

There is one Health Visitor for Lymm, and her area extends beyond the boundary to Partington. She resides at the Welfare Centre, Eagle Brow.

## (5) DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

There is one County Midwife resident in Lymm. She is temporarily accommodated at 96 Booth's Hill Road, Lymm.

## (6) HOME NURSING.

One District Nurse covers the area and resides at 27 Rectory Lane, which property it is proposed that the County Council should purchase. The District Nurse holds a stock of sick nursing requisites which are available for loan in cases requiring them upon a certificate of a doctor or nurse. Upon the smaller articles a small returnable deposit is required, and for more expensive items a weekly rental is charged in accordance with the County Council scale. This latter charge may be reduced in cases of hardship at the discretion of the Divisional Health Committee.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN LYMM URBAN DISTRICT  
for 1948.

CAUSES OF DEATH. Civilians only.	Males.	Females.
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ... ..	1	1
Cancer, malignant ... ..	5	1
Heart Disease... ..	12	12
Other circulatory diseases ... ..	—	1
Bronchitis... ..	3	4
Pneumonia ... ..	1	—
Digestive diseases... ..	1	—
Nephritis ... ..	—	2
Premature Birth ... ..	—	5
Congenital Malformation, &c. ... ..	1	—
Violent causes ... ..	2	—
All other causes ... ..	2	5
Intercrial Vascular Lesions ... ..	5	6
	33	37
Deaths of Infants { Total ... ..	1	5
under 1 year.. { Legitimate ... ..	1	5
{ Illegitimate... ..	—	—
Total Births . ... ..	60	53
Legitimate. . ... ..	57	50
Illegitimate... ..	3	3

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES  
for the past 10 years in Lymm U.D. :—

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Birth										
Rates	12·06	13·47	13·02	17·1	15·1	19·7	16·1	17·6	21·3	17·8
Death										
Rates	8·88	11·39	12·37	10·8	10·03	11·3	15·4	11·7	13·5	11·0
Inf. Mort.										
Rates	25	11	87	19	44·9	25·4	64·5	44·4	61	61·9

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### 1.—STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT—

Dr. Jas. Cullen, L.R.C.P. & S., D.P.H., &c.

M.O.H. (Part time) (retired 21st September, 1948).

Dr. Eric H. Moore, B.Sc., M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.  
(appointed 22nd September, 1948).

A. Livesey, Sanitary Inspector.

2.—(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES — Manchester University and Warrington P.H. Department to November, 1948. Regional Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, in December, 1948.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES—Supplied by Altrincham Borough to 5th July, and since then by Sale and Lymm Divisional Health Committee.

(c) THE DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION maintains one nurse.

(d) ANTE-NATAL—Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, School and Venereal Disease Clinics are under the direct control and administration of the County Council.

(e) HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION for Infectious Diseases up to July 5th was provided by Warrington Borough Council by arrangement.

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## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied direct from the Authorities own Artesian Wells. There is a plentiful supply. It is pure but rather hard.

### SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE.

No change has taken place in the methods of Sewage disposal. The major portion is dealt with by land treatment at the Statham and Sow Brook Sewage Farms.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The whole of the District, with the exception of 38 houses, are served by a water carriage system. In these cases, Pail Closets are used, which are emptied by the Scavengers. There is little likelihood of these figures being reduced for some considerable time, owing to the situation of the houses concerned.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of trade refuse, domestic waste and street sweeping is carried out by direct labour.

## RODENT CONTROL.

The Council have accepted delegation of powers under the provisions of the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, from the Cheshire County Council and will, in future, administer the service direct in accordance with the scheme approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Council refuse tips were kept under observation and treated with considerable success, also a maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out in the Spring.

## HOUSING REPAIRS.

The summary of inspections show that many visits were made during the year to properties of various descriptions with emphasis on the inspection of housing defects. Repairs and improvements have been effected in most cases, but generally speaking the remedying of defects has been a difficult problem, and repairs have been prolonged by the difficulty of obtaining certain materials. Owners and agents of property have co-operated fairly well, though in many cases repairs have had to wait for local contractors who have been engaged on the Housing Scheme, new Housing taking priority against all but the most urgent repairs.

The problem of repairs to cottage property under existing conditions is very difficult. When one considers that labour costs in the building trade have increased by approximately 100 per cent. since 1939, and materials have also increased in proportion, yet the rents of cottage property are still at the pre-war figure, it makes it very difficult to ask for any but the most essential repairs, and there is no doubt that owners who would carry out normal maintenance repairs themselves, just cannot afford on present-day rents, and so do no repairs until compelled to do so by the Local Authority.

## SCHOOLS.

The sanitary conditions of schools are generally satisfactory with the exception of one infants' school previously reported upon.

## DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

All farms and dairies were visited, and regular inspections carried out during the year. During the year we have been in contact and consultation with the County Authorities regarding improvements to existing cowsheds on a number of occasions, and I am pleased to record that the representatives of the County Medical Officer have been in all cases eager to co-operate and have been very helpful.

## MILK SUPPLY.

### *Retailers and Producers.*

Milk Retailers, including producer retailers	11
Producers (total) ... ..	29

### *Special Designation.*

Tuberculin Tested Producers ... ..	2
Accredited Producers ... ..	19
Bacteriological samples taken ... ..	20
Number of samples unsatisfactory ... ..	4
Samples examined for T.B. Bacilli ... ..	20
Samples found to contain T.B. Bacilli ...	3

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There is no slaughtering in the District at present. All meat coming from the central abattoirs where post mortem inspection is carried out.

Shops and Food preparation premises were inspected, and the following foods were voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption :—

Bread ... ..	428 lbs.
Tinned Meat... ..	8 lbs.
Vegetables ... ..	3 lbs.
Fruit ... ..	8 lbs.
Butter ... ..	16 lbs.
Fish ... ..	12 lbs.
Tinned Milk ... ..	14 lbs.
Frozen Egg ... ..	160 lbs.
Total ...	<hr/> 639 lbs. <hr/>

I am indebted to Mr. Stacey Hallard (Chief Inspector Weights and Measures, Cheshire County Council) for the following particulars of samples taken in the District during 1948. I think the report is very satisfactory. It is as follows :—

	Number	Not up to Standard
Boracic Ointment ... ..	2	
Chocolate, Drinking ... ..	1	
Epsom Salts and Tablets...	1	
Milk ... ..	11	1
Meat Pie ... ..	1	
Olive Oil ... ..	1	
Sweets ... ..	1	
Saccharin ... ..	1	
	<hr/> 19 <hr/>	<hr/> 1 <hr/>

PARTICULARS OF NON-STANDARD SAMPLES.

Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
Milk	1·41% Deficient in N.F.S.	Abnormal
and 3·3%	„ „ Fat	No action

## SUMMARY OF SANITARY AND BUILDING INSPECTOR'S VISITS.

Water Supply...	40
Drainage ...	129
Stables and Piggeries ...	9
Bakehouses ...	6
Public Conveniences ...	3
Places of Entertainment ...	5
Refuse Collection...	32
Refuse Disposal ...	27
Rats and Mice ...	230
Smoke Observation ...	5
Schools ...	2
Defective W.C's ...	62
Defective Roofs and Dampness ...	116
Miscellaneous...	256
Visits for the purposes of Building Inspections, including Inspections for the issue of Licences under Civil Building Control...	355
UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.	
Houses inspected ...	14
UNDER HOUSING ACTS.	
Houses inspected ...	5
VERMINOUS PREMISES.	
Number of Houses inspected ...	2
INFECTIOUS DISEASE.	
Enquiries in cases of I.D. ...	12
Visits <i>re</i> disinfection ...	13
INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS	
Shops and Stalls ...	22
Butchers' Shops...	4
Dairies and Cowsheds ...	71
Ice Cream Premises...	1
Food Preparation Premises ...	1
Miscellaneous Food Inspection Visits...	18
VISITS <i>re</i> SAMPLING.	
Milk—Bacteriological ...	20
Milk—T.B. Bacilli ...	20

# TUBERCULOSIS.

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	1	—	2	1	1	1	—	—
	1		3		2		—	

## SECTION G.—FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspections were carried out during the year under the A/M Act.





Garside & Jolley Ltd.  
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Warrington  
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